Date: December 14, 2004

Contact: Donna Zentz, (406) 896-5002

BILLINGS -- Now is the time to apply for seasonal jobs with the Bureau of Land Management for the summer of 2005.

Numerous summer seasonal positions are now being advertised. These include several fire-related positions such as firefighting, dispatch, engine and helitack operations. The majority of the fire vacancy announcements will close on January 14, 2005, so interested applicants should apply as soon as possible. Other available positions include archeological, biological, cartographic, engineering, forestry, hydrology, range, and survey technicians; equipment operators; maintenance workers; laborers; and park rangers.

Applicants can go to www.firejobs.doi.gov to apply for fire positions and https://jobs.quickhire.com/scripts/blm.exe to apply for all other positions. Duty locations are identified on the FIRES and QuickHire websites.

The QuickHire and FIRES websites allow applicants to search for available jobs, create, edit and archive personal electronic resumes, and apply for specific positions. Both systems also allow applicants to identify the types of jobs in which they are interested, and will notify them with an email message when that type of job is open for application. Previously registered users to QuickHire are not automatically registered in FIRES.

To be eligible for a seasonal position, an applicant must be at least 18 years of age and a citizen of the United States, have a current, valid driver's license, and pass a pre-employment physical. In addition, applicants for fire positions must successfully complete a work capacity test (a three-mile hike over level terrain with a 45-pound pack within 45 minutes) and submit to a drug screening test before they can be hired. All tentative selectees are also subject to a background check.

For more information, contact your local BLM office: Billings, 896-5002; Miles City, 233-2800; Butte, 533-7600; Dillon, 683-2337; Lewistown, 538-7461; Malta, 654-5100; Missoula, 329-3914; Glasgow, 228-3750; Havre, 265-5891; Dickinson, North Dakota, 701-227-7700; or Belle Fourche, South Dakota, 605-892-7000.